

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/848,984

Applicant(s)

SUGIYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

TuyetLien (Lien) T. Tran

2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/21/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3 and 5-11.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Peter Martine (reg. No 32,043) on 8/09/07 at 4:30 PM.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1:

A user interface device that causes a user interface-related window to be displayed on a display unit, which is capable of displaying various pieces of information, said user interface device comprising:

a command input module that receives a user command;

a storage module that stores at least data of a first manipulation menu display field, data of a second manipulation menu display field, and data of a viewer display field for displaying a processing object of each manipulation; and

a display control module that, when the user command received by said command input module is a first manipulation window display command, reads the data of the first manipulation menu display field and the data of the viewer display field from said storage module and displays a first manipulation window, which includes the first manipulation menu display field arranged at a predetermined location on a periphery of the viewer display field, on said display unit and when the user command received by said command input module of the second manipulation menu display field and the data of the viewer display field from said storage

Art Unit: 2179

module and displays a second manipulation window, which includes the second manipulation menu display field arranged at a location opposite to the predetermined location on the periphery of the viewer display field, on said display unit,

in the case of input of the second manipulation window display command during display of the first manipulation window on said display unit, said display control module sliding the first manipulation window to make the first manipulation menu display field disappear from the display on said display unit and to make the second manipulation menu display field appear on the display on said display unit, while making the viewer display field remain on the display on said display unit, so as to display the second manipulation window on said display unit,

in the case of input of the first manipulation window display command during display of the second manipulation window on said display unit, said display control module sliding the second manipulation window to make the second manipulation menu display field disappear from the display on said display unit and to make the first manipulation menu making the viewer display field remain on the display on said display unit, so as to display the first manipulation window on said display unit.

wherein said storage module stores a first manipulation window option bar corresponding to the first manipulation window display command and a second manipulation window option bar corresponding to the second manipulation window display command,

for display of the first manipulation window on said display unit, said display control module arrays the first manipulation window option bar and the second manipulation window option bar in an identical direction of an alignment of the viewer display field and the first manipulation menu display field and displays the first manipulation window option bar longer and the second manipulation window option bar shorter, and

Art Unit: 2179

for display of the second manipulation window on said display unit, said display control module arrays the first manipulation window option bar and the second manipulation window option bar in an identical direction of an alignment of the viewer display field and the second manipulation menu display field and displays the second manipulation window option bar longer and the first manipulation window option bar shorter.

Claim 4: (Canceled).

Claim 5:

A user interface device in accordance with ~~claim 4~~ claim 1 wherein said display control module slides the first manipulation window option bar and the second manipulation window option bar to change the longer side and the shorter side, when the first manipulation window is slid to change over the display to the second manipulation window on said display unit or when the second manipulation window is slid to change over the display to the first manipulation window.

Claim 10:

A user interface display method by computer software that reads required data from a storage module, which stores at least data of a first manipulation menu display field, data of a second manipulation menu display field, and data of a viewer display field for displaying a processing object of each manipulation, and displays the required data on a display unit, said user interface display method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving a user command;

Art Unit: 2179

(b) when the user command is a first manipulation window display command, reading the data of the first manipulation menu display field and the data of the viewer display field from said storage module and displaying a first manipulation window, which includes the first manipulation menu display field arranged at one side on periphery of the viewer display field, on said display unit;

(c) when the user command is a second manipulation window display command, reading the data of the second manipulation menu display field and the data of the viewer display field from said storage module and displaying a second manipulation window, which includes the second manipulation menu display field arranged at the opposite side on the periphery of the viewer display field, on said display unit;

(d) in the case of input of the second manipulation window display command during display of the first manipulation window on said display unit, sliding the first manipulation window to make the first manipulation menu display field disappear from the display on said display unit and to make the second manipulation menu display field appear on the display on said display unit, while making the viewer display field remain on the display on said display unit, so as to display the second manipulation window on said display unit; and

(e) in the case of input of the first manipulation window display command during display of the second manipulation window on said display unit, sliding the second manipulation window to make the second manipulation menu display field disappear from the display on said display unit and to make the first manipulation menu display field appear on the display on said display unit, while making the viewer display field remain on the display on said display unit, so as to display the first manipulation window on said display unit.

Art Unit: 2179

wherein said storage module stores a first manipulation window option bar corresponding to the first manipulation window display command and a second manipulation window option bar corresponding to the second manipulation window display command,

for display of the first manipulation window on said display unit, said display control module arrays the first manipulation window option bar and the second manipulation window option bar in an identical direction of an alignment of the viewer display field and the first manipulation menu display field and displays the first manipulation window option bar longer and the second manipulation window option bar shorter, and

for display of the second manipulation window on said display unit, said display control module arrays the first manipulation window option bar and the second manipulation window option bar in an identical direction of an alignment of the viewer display field and the second manipulation menu display field and displays the second manipulation window option bar longer and the first manipulation window option bar shorter.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-3, 5-11 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Independent claims 1 and 10, when considered as a whole, are allowable over the prior art of record. Specifically, prior art of record fail to clearly teach or fairly suggest the limitations:

- The display of the first manipulation window on said display unit, said display control module arrays the first manipulation window option bar and the second manipulation window option bar in an identical direction of an alignment of the viewer display field and the first manipulation menu display field and displays the

Art Unit: 2179

first manipulation window option bar longer and the second manipulation window option bar shorter, and

- The display of the second manipulation window on said display unit, said display control module arrays the first manipulation window option bar and the second manipulation window option bar in an identical direction of an alignment of the viewer display field and the second manipulation menu display field and displays the second manipulation window option bar longer and the first manipulation window option bar shorter.

The dependent claims further add limitations to the allowable subject matter of the corresponding independent claims; thus are also allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TuyetLien (Lien) T. Tran whose telephone number is 571-270-1033. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Friday: 7:30 - 5:00, off on alternating Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on 571-272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2179

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

T.T
8/09/2007

Lien Tran
Examiner
Art Unit 2179

BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER